



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

0129

Moab District
P. O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

3480
U-0147570
(U-065c)

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
Certification No. P 872 631 175

Mr. Glen A. Zumwalt
Vice President/General Manager
Utah Fuel Company - Skyline
P.O. Box 719
Helper, Utah 84526

DEC 22 1992

RECEIVED

DEC 24 1992

DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

RE: Minor Modification to the Skyline Mine No. 3 - Fault Zone in the 6th Right Bleeder

Dear Mr. Zumwalt:

On November 20, 1992, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a request from Utah Fuel Company (UFC) to modify the approved resource recovery and protection plan (R2P2) for the Skyline Mine No. 3. The affected coal reserves are in the Lower O'Connor-A Seam on Federal coal lease U-0147570.

UFC's approved mining plan was to develop the 7th Right entries to the 6th Right bleeder and recover a portion of the reserves in the block of coal between #76 and #80 crosscuts with first mining. UFC is now proposing to stop mining the 7th Right entries at #70 crosscut and exclude any mining in the block of coal between #76 and #80 crosscuts (see enclosure).

According to UFC, a fault zone with a high degree of sympathetic faulting was encountered while developing the setup rooms for the 6th Right longwall panel. Adverse roof and rib conditions are associated with this zone.

A BLM mining engineer from the Price Coal Office inspected the mine on June 22, 1992. During the inspection of the 6th Right and 7th Right entries, a fault zone comprised of two major faults with a very high degree of sympathetic faulting associated with the area between the faults was observed. The fault zone is approximately 700 feet wide, trending N60W and traverses the 6th Right longwall panel setup rooms. Solid steel mats, roof trusses, and a combination of seven and ten foot roof bolts were used to control the fractured roof and the weak rib in this area. It is also not known how far the fault zone continues north of the 6th Right longwall panel setup rooms.

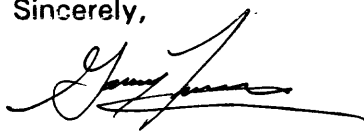
Based on this information, the BLM concludes that it is not feasible for the company to cross the fault/fracture zone from the 7th Right entries. However, there is potential for developing the northern portion of the reserves in this block which are unaffected by the fault zone from the 6th Right bleeder entries. Termination of this development will be based upon where the fault zone is encountered, the condition of the roof and ribs, and verification by the BLM.

Therefore, the BLM has authorized UFC to stop mining the 7th Right entries at #70 crosscut. We estimate that approximately 28,000 tons of additional coal in the northern portion of the reserves in this block between #76 and #80 crosscuts could be recovered from the 6th Right bleeder entries. UFC must either follow the approved mining plan to obtain the additional recovery of the reserves in question or submit appropriate justification for BLM approval explaining why additional recovery is not possible.

The BLM has determined that the proposed minor modification, as conditioned, is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and stipulations, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact Abe Elias in the Price Coal Office at 801/637-4584.

Sincerely,

for 
Assistant District Manager
Mineral Resources

Enclosure:
Approved Mine Map (1p)

cc: DM, Moab (U-065) (w/enclosure)
SD, Utah (U-921) (w/enclosure)
UDOGM, Salt Lake City (w/enclosure)

MINOR MODIFICATION TO
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:

Alfred E. [Signature] 12/21/92
Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By:

[Signature] 12/21/92
Chief, Price Coal Office (Date)

UTAH FUEL COMPANY
SKYLINE MINE No. 1
LOWER O'CONNOR-A SEAM
Approved Plan

